

LOG OF MEETING

U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER THOMAS H. MOORE

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SUBJECT: Bedding Standard

DATE OF MEETING: December 07, 2004

PLACE: Room 725, CPSC headquarters

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Michael Gougisha, Pamela Weller

DATE OF ENTRY: January 12, 2005

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Commissioner Thomas H. Moore; Michael Gougisha and Pamela L. Weller, Counselors to Commissioner Thomas H. Moore

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Hardy Poole of the National Textile Association; Eddie Lanier, P.E. of Westpoint Stevens; Phillip Harrison of Springs; Linwood Wright of Dan River; Joanne Mattiace, Leggett & Platt; and Sean Oberle of the Product Safety Letter

SUMMARY OF MEETING:

Commissioner Moore opened by welcoming all in attendance. Hardy Poole began the meeting by introducing the other members of his party. Linwood Wright then spoke indicating that they were working with the State of California on TB 604, the flammability regulation for top of bed materials. He indicated that the companies present at the meeting manufactured 75% - 80% of the bedding products sold on the U.S. market. He indicated that his industry was generally supportive of regulations that address the flammability issues of bedding and recognized that compliance would mean additional cost to the manufacturers. However he would expect those additional costs to be reasonable. He also pointed out that the primary need for protection would be with the lower social/economic groups therefore limiting additional cost would be important. He also indicated that his group would like a domestic competitive advantage.

Hardy Poole indicated that they would like to see CPSC keep pace with California and that timing with California was an interstate commerce issue. Mr. Poole also indicated how difficult a time the companies present were having with foreign competition. He indicated that Dan River and Westpoint Stevens were in Chapter 11 bankruptcy and that Springs had announced the closing of 4 plants and that competition with imports was to blame. He additionally provided that his group was meeting with CPSC

staffer Margaret Neily on the afternoon of December 7th to share their concerns and work with her on the bedding flammability issue.

Linwood Wright then indicated that California was limited to regulating only products that are filled (i.e. comforters) and that he would like to see sheets and similar products also studied during the process. However, he did note that he didn't think they contributed much to the fire load and that there was the issue of multiple washings and he wasn't sure how you could make a fire-resistant product that would withstand the constant laundering.

In response to a Commissioner Moore inquiry on timing, Mr. Poole then added that there was a California task group meeting in mid-November and that round-robin testing of performance requirements was taking place. He also indicated that he felt that January 2007 was the possible future date for California promulgating its standard.

Commissioner Moore then thanked everyone for attending and sharing their concerns.